

Region VI ICC

<http://www.nd.gov/humanservices/services/disabilities/earlyintervention/ndicc/region6/index.html>

## ***Region VI ICC***

***South Central Human Service Center***

***September 18, 2006***

Present:	Linda Heinrich	Keith Gustafson
	Stacy Steele	Jolene Sjostrom
	Rhoda Young	Lisa Maertens
	Cindie Richman	Marcia Schneider
	Rose Greer	Verla Jung
	Joann Nygard	

### **Report from Core Group**

1. Membership Update: There has been a change in the parents on the RICC. Dee Nelson is withdrawing, and Pam Whaley has moved. Two new parents, Stacy Steele of Jamestown and Jolene Luck of Adrian have replaced them effective the September mtg.
2. At our May meeting, there was some discussion about talking to Parts B & C at the state level to see if we could have a joint child find training statewide. Keith was going to do some checking. He reported back that due to the trainings the state was doing to inform everyone of the new compliance issues, we would have to wait with this until perhaps the spring or summer of 2007.

3. When applying or reapplying for Medical Assistance, families have to produce a certified copy of their child's birth certificate. Early Intervention services are supposed to be free, and there is a \$7 charge to obtain a certified copy of a birth certificate. General discussion was had regarding the hardship of this cost and the inconvenience of this to families, and how it will impact the timeliness of the application/reapplication process.

4. Cindie Richman sent out a Family Survey Annual Review of Services to 40 SCR KIDS families. She received 19 surveys back. Committee reviewed the results and discussed areas of strength and those of concern, and how to further look into these. Marcia Schneider mentioned that the Experienced Parents are to be trained to complete a Family Outcomes Survey in the near future. The committee agreed to wait and see what the 18 question survey looks like, then see if there needs to be any further action taken.

5. Rhoda Young gave an overview of the status of each special education unit's desire to locate a parent within their special education unit to fill a role as a Transition Experienced Parent. This parent needs to have had a child go through Early Intervention services and has now transitioned into Part B. They would be available to assist families within their special education unit transition from Part C to Part B.

At this time, Sheyenne Valley Special Education Unit has an agreement with Dawn Ihry, Buffalo Valley Special Education will work with Melissa Gleason, and Dickey/LaMoure Sp. Ed., with Beth Hauf. East Central Sp. Ed. Unit has asked the Region EP, Marcia Schneider, if she would assist them at such time as they have a child ready to transition. The remaining special education units haven't made a decision on this at this time.

6. There will be transition trainings taking place in all of the regions throughout North Dakota. Region 6 training will be October 10th at the Gladstone Inn in Jamestown. The new transition Experienced Parents are going to attend, as is Early Intervention and Developmental Disabilities staff.

7. The Region 6 RICC meetings for 2007 are: January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007,  
September 17th, 2007

8. Committee reviewed the 2005 Action Plan, and will remove those items that have been completed.

## **2005 Action Plan**

### **I Child Find/Public Awareness**

#### **I-2: COMPLETED**

2. Contact agencies that work with children and families to encourage collaboration in offering a Right Track screening for all children less than 3 years of age. Include childcare providers & childcare associations.	Right Track, Infant Development, Case Management	January 2004 Partially Completed Completed March 2005
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#### **I-3: COMPLETED**

3. Collaborate with other agencies to provide information to migrant, mobile, and homeless families about the importance of Early Intervention screening.	Infant Development, Case Management	2005 Completed January 2006
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#### **I-4: ONGOING NEED TO CONTINUE THIS**

4. Collaborate with other agencies to develop an education plan regarding the importance of early intervention. (College parents, colonies, prisons, home	Infant Development, Case Management	<del>2004</del> Partially
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schools, health professionals, child care providers, social workers, adoptive and foster parents)		completed 2005
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Comments: Cindie Richman has spoken to several groups in all areas listed in this objective, except prisons. This appears to be an ongoing need and will be kept in the action plan.

#### 1-5: **CONTINUE THIS**

5. Develop and implement a system to identify children who, at their preschool screening, have a primary language disability.	Region VI Special Education Directors	<del>2004</del> 2005 Partially met
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## **II. Natural Learning Environments**

### **II-1: THERE IS CONTINUAL TRAINING ON THIS**

1. Educate families, staff, therapists, childcare providers and family support service providers about natural environment.	Region VI Natural Environment Team	<del>2004</del> 2005 In process
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**Comments:** There has been a lot of training for Early Intervention Staff, but no one is sure what has gone on beyond that. The State's Technical Assistance Team is available to provide services in this area also. The group discussed what the TAT is doing, how they can be accessed, and what they can provide. Region 6 has requested their assistance to help them make their IFSP's more in compliance.

### **II-2 COMPLETED**

2. Identify key staff to attend: Supervise and Supporting Natural Learning Opportunities Training.	Region VI ICC	2004 2005
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## **//-6 CONTINUE**

6. Gather statistics on the number of children traveling and the number of miles traveled to get direct therapy provided at a non Natural Environment location.	Infant Development, Case Management and Region VI ICC	2005
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**Comments:** Part C is not to pay for services received in a non-natural learning environment, so they are not to pay for parents transporting their kids to therapies at a hospital, clinic, etc. There was discussion about the distance learning to receive therapies in rural areas. Linda Heinrich asked Keith Gustafson to bring more info on this to the next RICC meeting.

## **II-7**

7. Organize Focus groups including both professionals and parents to review data and develop plans for concerns 2 and 3.	CSCC	2005
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## **III. Family Centered System of Care**

### **///-3 CONTINUE**

3. Develop a process to increase parent understanding/confidence in participating in the IFSP process utilizing experienced parent(s) and	Infant Development, Case Management	June 2005
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resources from Case Management.	and Regional ICC	
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**Comments:** Due to family turnover, this is an ongoing need and will be kept in the plan.

#### ***IV-1 CONTINUE***

1. Develop focus groups to: A. Get input from preschool parents on their perception of the transition process. B. Get input from Special Ed. Directors and Coordinators on their perception of the transition process.	CSCC and Family to Family	A. 2003 B. 2003 Completed Evaluate in 2005
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**Comments:** North Dakota's annual performance plan includes activities that continue to address transition issues.

#### ***IV-2 CONTINUE***

2. Develop Training sessions for families on: A. Knowing what to expect of the transition process. B. Special equipment purchasing. C. Child/Family rights in the school system. D. IEPs (what are they, how to make them effective) E. Train parents on option 504.	Infant Development, Case Management, Experienced Parent(s), and Special Education Directors and Coordinators	<del>2004</del> 2005
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F. Any other concerns that may come up in the focus group.		
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**Comments:** Federal and state guidelines continue to address components of these topics, so they are always a “work in progress” Early Intervention, Developmental Disabilities, and Experienced Parents.

### ***IV-3* CONTINUE**

3. Develop training sessions for professionals on: A. Making the transition process from Infant Development to Special Ed. more compatible. B. Any other concern that come up in the focus group.	Infant Development, Case Management	2004 Completed Evaluate in 2005
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**Comments:** This continues to be an area which federal and state regulations, as well as Early Intervention and Developmental Disabilities staff is continually trying to improve.

**Next meeting is: January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 11:30 at South Central Human Service Center.**